



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices were unchanged in the West, unchanged to higher, mostly unchanged elsewhere. Trade sentiment was generally steady. Retail demand was slow to moderate with some improvements expected due to first of the month and planned features. Food service was fair to fairly good. Supplies were adequate and more balanced because of reduced holiday schedules; however, lighter weights were in the longest position in the Northeast. In the parts structure, wings were in better balance, and breast items were readily available and at times heavily discounted for bone-in breasts. Trading was slow to fair. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mixed, mostly desirable.

Final report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 12/27-01/01/99 (cents per lb)

AREAS	US GRADE A		COMPOSITE		
	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	LOADS	WTD AVG	LOADS
Bos/New Eng	54.00-55.00	54.04	14	60.98	33
Chicago	49.00-52.00	51.88	47	54.22	78
Cincinnati	TFEWR	—	—	60.84	25
Cleveland	TFEWR	—	—	59.00	19
Denver	63.50	63.50	16	62.87	25
Detroit	50.00-53.00	53.14	11	55.66	40
Los Angeles	64.00	62.99	63	62.21	124
New York	50.00-55.00	53.09	43	55.09	80
Philadelphia	49.00-52.00	51.71	7	54.06	25
Pittsburgh	49.50-51.50	52.00	10	56.53	55
St. Louis	51.50-52.00	51.90	17	53.83	37
San Francisco	64.50	63.69	29	65.10	63

Composite 12 City Weighted Average

LOADS	12/27/99	Change/Last Wk	12/20/99	12/28/98
604	57.91	-0.19	58.10	59.02

WOG BROILERS (without giblets) - prices paid per lb delvd to first receivers in trucklot and less than trucklot quantities.

REGIONS	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	LOADS
East	54.50-56.50	56.89	41
Central	54.50-59.00	57.18	52
West	52.00-65.50	61.41	50

Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent

Mississippi	58.00-59.00	57.86	82
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GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES The Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 58.50 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

MONDAY FINAL WTD AVG		
LOADS	RANGE	FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT
1,065	49.00-60.15	57.37

The Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed final weighted average prices on ice pack parts:

ITEM	WTD AVG (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
BREASTS - B/S	134.50	3,407
BREASTS - WHOLE	69.50	1,827
THIGH MEAT - B/S	70.00	506
LEG QUARTERS	19.50	7,560
WINGS	75.50	2,646

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE.

NORTHEAST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying activity on ready to-cook whole broiler/fryers continued seasonally light. Offerings of smaller birds were abundant and larger sizes were generally adequate to handle current trade needs. Movement into retail and distributive outlets was typically slow for this time of year. The market tone was about steady on larger sizes and steady to barely steady on the lighter birds. In the parts market, bone-in breasts were available and being heavily discounted. All other items were usually adequate.

SOUTHERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Trade sentiment was steady. Demand was light to fair with limited trading as industry mostly assessed needs following the extended holiday weekend. Supplies were usually sufficient to handle trade needs. In the parts structure, trading was slow to moderate and availability was at least adequate with wings slightly less available in some areas. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were mostly desirable.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Final majority prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment about steady. Trading for this week's deliveries were mainly unchanged to slightly higher. Offerings generally adequate overall with heavy weights in better balance due to reduced slaughter schedules. Retailer demand somewhat improved by stores to cover planned first-of-the month feature activities, fast food fairly good. Some distributors reported light weekend carryovers due to transportation delays, elsewhere floor stocks were moderate. The Los Angeles negotiated WOG average was up 52 to 53.53 with the reported volume at 22 loads down 8 percent from last Monday.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Final majority prices for this week's trading were unchanged into Chicago, Detroit and St. Louis, TFEWR into Cincinnati and Cleveland. Trade sentiment on whole fryers was mostly steady. Retail demand only fair following the holiday weekend. Food service movement light to moderate best into shopping areas. Floor stocks adequate with sizes desirable. Parts demand was noted best on wings. Supplies of all parts items were adequate. Trade sentiment steady on all parts items.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was noted as generally light to fair following the long holiday weekend. Offerings were adequate to instances tight on heavier sizes; fully adequate on the smaller sizes. Live supplies were moderate with weights ranging desirable to light. Processing schedules were moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 55 to 67 cents. Trade sentiment was mostly steady. In the parts complex, breast items were fully adequate. Wings were in better balance than a week earlier.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

BRANDED U.S. GRADE A

RANGE	53-67
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	57.82
NO. OF BOXES	11,770

*6 of 8 plants reporting.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS Trucklot buying interest was fair at best for the beginning of the week as most buyers were cautious in purchasing product. Offerings of bone-in breasts were readily available and sold at discounts. All other parts were more than sufficient for limited trade needs. Movement into retail and distributive channels was seasonally slow, however, most dealers expected to see some improvement later in the week. The market tone was weak on bone-in breasts and steady to barely steady on the balance.

PRICES PAID PER POUND, ICE PACKED AND CO2 PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES.

ITEM	CURRENT NEG TRADING*	WTD AVG**	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	125-130	148.07	160,840
TENDERLOINS	125	125.49	102,960
BREAST - WITH RIBS	57-58	66.87	204,800
BREAST - LINE RUN	57	56.84	279,160
LEGS	26-27	31.01	143,040
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	16-17	19.34	189,945
DRUMSTICKS	34-35	32.93	105,830
THIGHS	21-22	28.59	125,720
B/S THIGHS	70-71	76.07	41,040
WINGS (WHOLE)	71-72	80.74	235,800
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.04	65,560
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	39.23	58,280
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	64.70	95,000

INCLUDES NY CITY METROPOLITAN AREA, NORTHERN NJ MA, CT, RI, AND PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ARKANSAS BROILER/FRYER PARTS

F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED OR CO2 PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	487	130.00-134.00	130	130.06
TENDERLOINS		NO TRADING REPORTED		
BREAST - WITH RIBS	318	62.00-84.00	63	65.05
FRONT HALVES		NO TRADING REPORTED		
LEGS	161	29.00-30.00	-	29.99
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	317	16.00-19.00	16	16.99
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,038	18.00-19.00	18	18.04
WINGS (WHOLE)	130	61.00-74.50	61-67	65.67
DRUMSTICKS	139	33.00-44.00	-	34.52
THIGHS		NO TRADING REPORTED		

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATE	ACTUAL	AVG WTS	ACTUAL	AVG WTS
	12/27	12/23	12/23	12/20	12/16
ALA	3,384	2,596	4.75	3,810	5.10
ARK	5,674	3,006	5.03	5,154	4.71
DELMARVA	2,465	2,262	5.08	2,444	5.14
KY-LA-TN	1,766	1,708	4.42	1,921	4.46
MISS	2,799	2,220	4.80	2,417	5.02
NC	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	2,610	5.89
TEXAS	2,203	2,701	3.70	2,221	4.83
TOTAL	18,291	14,493	4.63	20,577	5.00
MON	18,291(A)			20,577(A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 27-Dec 1999 is estimated to be 27,365,000 down 11.38 percent from a week ago and down 7.16 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 30,878,000, last year 29,477,000)

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED OR CO2 PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND. **POUNDS**

ITEM	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	477	125.00-178.00	125-130	132.96
TENDERLOINS	112	121.00-170.00	130-135	135.63
BREAST - LINE RUN		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
FRONT HALVES		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
LEGS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	66	18.00-19.00	-	18.39
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,010	20.00-21.00	-	20.04
WINGS (WHOLE)		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
WINGS (CUT)	450	80.00-90.00	85-87	85.44
DRUMSTICKS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
THIGHS	7	34.00	-	34.00
B/S THIGHS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS
TRADING FOR DECEMBER 27, 1999 — F.O.B. DOCK.

	TODAY'S RANGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
	40.00 - 40.50	40.20
		39.39

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

MIDWEST REGION PARTS PRICES PER LB., ICE-PACKED POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES DELIVERED TO IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, OH, SD, AND WI WEEK OF 12/27-12/31/99

	Price Per Lb.	Mostly
BREAST - B/S	120.00 - 140.00	130.00 - 135.00
BREAST - LINE RUN	60.00 - 71.00	60.00 - 65.00
LEGS	28.00 - 36.00	-
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	16.00 - 22.00	18.00 - 20.00
DRUMSTICKS	29.00 - 37.00	35.00 - 36.00
WINGS (WHOLE)	62.00 - 75.00	70.00 - 72.00
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10.00 - 12.00	-
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	27.50 - 35.00	-
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	35.00 - 48.00	-

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY, DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

	RANGE
WOGS 2# & UP - WHOLE	76-91
WOGS 2# & UP - CUT UP 8&9 PIECES	79-97
FROZEN HENS 5# & UP	88-93
FROZEN DUCKS	135-149
FROZEN SQUABS	589

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA)

FRESH FRYERS	78-82
ROASTERS 4# & UP	80-90
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	88
DUCKS	125
RABBITS-WHOLE	309
RABBITS-CUT UP	326

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

FRESH FRYERS	DRY PACK	104
	ICE PACK	92-98
ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	104-107
	DRY PACK	112
HENS OVER 5#	DRY PACK	98
	ICE PACK	91
DUCKS		149-162

EASTERN REGION PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND FOR DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS. 24-DEC-99

CHICKEN PRICES

-----FROZEN-----		-----FRESH-----	
FAT	FOB DELIVERED	FOB DELIVERED	
CONTENT	DOCK	DOCK	
15% OR LESS			
RANGE	19.00-20.00	-	17.00
WTD AVERAGE	19.50		17.00

280,000 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

CHICKEN PRICES, WITH ADDED SKIN

15% OR LESS			
RANGE	-	-	16.00
WTD AVERAGE			16.00

120,000 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

15-20%

RANGE	-	-	11.00	13.50-13.75
WTD AVERAGE			11.00	13.63

120,000 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

20% OR MORE

RANGE	14.50	-	14.00	-
WTD AVERAGE	14.50		14.00	

120,000 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

* INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING STATES: CT, DE, FL, GA, MA, MD, ME, NC, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SC, VA, VT, WV

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN REPORT Prices were generally unchanged compared to the past week. Demand was moderate for fully adequate offerings of spent heavy hens. Finished sales had slowed. Schedules were reduced. Trade sentiment was steady at best.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *

FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 27-DEC-99

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	9-19.5	11-13	12.83

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

CENTRAL REGION PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND FOR DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS. 24-DEC-99

CHICKEN PRICES

-----FROZEN-----		-----FRESH-----	
FAT	FOB DELIVERED	FOB DELIVERED	CON-
TENT	DOCK	DOCK	
15% OR LESS			
RANGE	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE			

0 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

CHICKEN PRICES, WITH ADDED SKIN

15% OR LESS			
RANGE	-	20.00	13.00-15.00
WTD AVERAGE		20.00	13.93

116,200 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

15-20%

RANGE	15.00-16.00	-	9.00-14.50	12.50-16.00
WTD AVERAGE	15.75		11.50	13.53

1,734,000 pounds, this includes 897,600 pounds for export shipment.

20% OR MORE

RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

0 pounds, this includes 0 pounds for export shipment.

* INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING STATES: AL, AR, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MI, MN, MO, MS, ND, NE, OK, OH, SD, TN, TX, WI

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN REPORT Prices were generally unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was mostly fair for the fully adequate offerings. Trading was light with most plants on holiday schedules. Undertone was steady at best.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 27-DEC-99

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	8-16.5	8-14.5	10.96
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT		
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT		

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

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